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Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

Payroll jobs and wages estimates, sourced from Single Touch Payroll (STP) data

Reference period Week ending 24 April 2021

Released 11/05/2021

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Key statistics

The latest fortnight of data continues to show some signs of seasonality around the end of the school holiday period. For further information, see the [Media Release](#).

Between the weeks ending 10 April and 24 April 2021:

- Payroll jobs increased by 0.4%

- Total wages paid increased by 0.3%

National

In the fortnight up to the week ending 24 April 2021:

- Payroll jobs increased by 0.4%, compared to a decrease of 1.6% in the previous fortnight
- Total wages paid increased by 0.3%, compared to a decrease of 3.0% in the previous fortnight

Table 1 - Percentage change in payroll jobs and wages

	In the fortnight since 10 Apr 2021	In the month since 27 Mar 2021	In the year since 11 Apr 2020
Payroll jobs	0.4%	-1.2%	10.6%
Total wages	0.3%	-2.7%	9.2%

Estimates of changes throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded index values. They may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded index values.

Graph 1 - Payroll jobs and total wages, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

State and territory

All geographical areas in this release represent the residential address of the job holder.

The largest changes in states and territories in the fortnight up to the week ending 24 April 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Northern Territory increased by 0.9%
- Queensland increased by 0.7%

Total wages:

- Northern Territory increased by 2.1%
- Tasmania increased by 0.8%

Table 2 - Percentage change by states and territories

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
New South Wales	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%	2.0%
Victoria	0.4%	1.5%	0.4%	4.9%
Queensland	0.7%	1.3%	0.6%	2.4%
South Australia	0.3%	3.6%	0.6%	4.2%
Western Australia	0.1%	4.5%	-0.6%	0.1%
Tasmania	0.2%	1.1%	0.8%	2.2%
Northern Territory	0.9%	5.4%	2.1%	6.4%
Australian Capital Territory	0.2%	1.3%	0.4%	4.0%
Australia	0.4%	1.9%	0.3%	2.8%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\).](#)

Map 1 - Percentage change in payroll jobs, in the fortnight to 24 April 2021

Loading map...

Sub-state - payroll jobs

Updated estimates of payroll jobs by sub-state regions were added to this release on Wednesday 12 May 2021.

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by sub-state regions, Statistical Area 4 (SA4) and Statistical Area 3 (SA3), are presented as index values through to the week ending 24 April 2021 in Table 5 of the Data downloads. These estimates are only updated in alternate releases.

For more information on the geography used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#glossary\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#glossary).

Sex

In the fortnight up to the week ending 24 April 2021:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by females increased by 0.3%
- Worked by males increased by 0.3%

Total wages:

- Payments to males increased by 0.5%
- Payments to females held steady (0.0%)

Table 3 - Percentage change by sex

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
Males	0.3%	-0.1%	0.5%	0.6%
Females	0.3%	1.4%	0.0%	5.1%
All persons (b)	0.4%	1.9%	0.3%	2.8%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions).

b. Indexes for males and females can move independently from All persons indexes due to the inclusion of persons with 'unknown' sex in the calculation of All persons. For more information see Data components, totals and index calculation in [Data limitations and revisions \(https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions).

Graph 2 - Payroll jobs by sex, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Age group

The largest changes in age groups in the fortnight up to the week ending 24 April 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by people aged 15-19 increased by 3.1%
- Worked by people aged 70 years and over decreased by 0.7%

Total wages:

- Payments to people aged 70 years and over decreased by 1.1%
- Payments to people aged 40-49 and 50-59 increased by 0.5%.

Table 4 - Percentage change by age group

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
15-19 year olds	3.1%	1.8%	-0.5%	7.6%
20-29 year olds	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	3.5%
30-39 year olds	0.1%	2.1%	0.3%	2.9%
40-49 year olds	0.4%	1.4%	0.5%	0.6%
50-59 year olds	0.5%	2.5%	0.5%	2.5%
60-69 year olds	0.1%	5.7%	-0.2%	7.4%
Aged 70 years and over	-0.7%	5.1%	-1.1%	9.4%
All persons	0.4%	1.9%	0.3%	2.8%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

5 year age groups

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups (presented as index values) up to the week ending 24 April 2021 are available in Table 8 of the Data downloads.

Industry

The largest changes in industries in the fortnight up to the week ending 24 April 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Information media and telecommunications increased by 2.2%
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 1.4%

Total wages:

- Retail trade decreased by 3.6%

- Administrative and support services increased by 3.6%

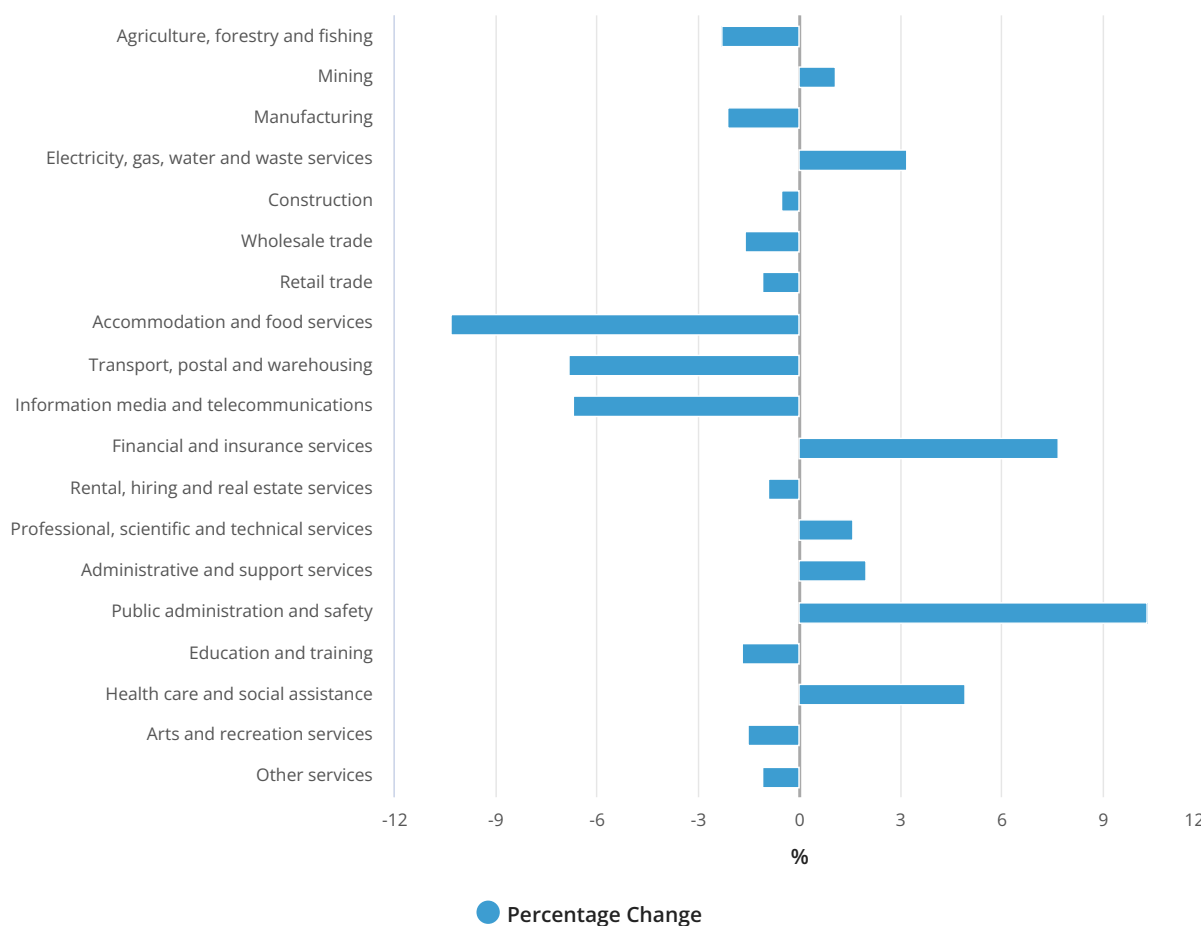
Table 5 - Percentage change by industry

	Payroll jobs		Total wages (b)	
	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-1.4%	-2.3%	-0.2%	4.0%
Mining	0.7%	1.1%	-0.8%	-16.6%
Manufacturing	0.6%	-2.1%	1.3%	-2.4%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1.0%	3.2%	0.4%	-1.5%
Construction	0.6%	-0.5%	1.3%	-0.3%
Wholesale trade	0.8%	-1.6%	0.0%	-2.9%
Retail trade	0.4%	-1.1%	-3.6%	0.9%
Accommodation and food services	0.8%	-10.3%	-2.7%	-5.9%
Transport, postal and warehousing	1.1%	-6.8%	-0.5%	-5.8%
Information media and telecommunications	2.2%	-6.7%	1.3%	1.2%
Financial and insurance services	1.1%	7.7%	1.2%	0.4%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	0.2%	-0.9%	-0.3%	3.5%
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.8%	1.6%	1.8%	4.0%
Administrative and support services	0.6%	2.0%	3.6%	6.1%
Public administration and safety	0.0%	10.3%	0.6%	8.0%
Education and training	0.4%	-1.7%	0.3%	-0.1%
Health care and social assistance	-0.4%	4.9%	-0.8%	9.1%
Arts and recreation services	0.4%	-1.5%	-0.8%	0.9%
Other services	-0.5%	-1.1%	0.1%	6.3%

Payroll jobs		Total wages (b)		
	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
All industries	0.4%	1.9%	0.3%	2.8%

- a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).
- b. Wages estimates in some industries may include seasonal bonuses. For more information, refer to the seasonality section of [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Graph 3 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by Industry between 14 March 2020 and 24 April 2021



Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by industry subdivision (presented as index values) up to the week ending 10 April 2021 are available in Table 6 of the Data downloads. These estimates are only updated in alternate releases.

For more information on the industry classifications used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-](#)

[april-2021#glossary\).](#)

Employment size

Recent movements in payroll jobs by employment size are subject to higher than usual levels of revision (over a longer period) than other estimates. This is particularly the case for small employers (with under 20 employees). Further information is presented on the impact of revisions on the small employers index, in Variation in revisions in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\).](#)

The state and territory dimension of Table 6 has been removed to improve readability. The source data continue to be available in Table 7 of the Data downloads.

Table 6 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by employment size

	Change between 10 Apr 2021 and 24 Apr 2021	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 24 Apr 2021
Under 20 employees	-1.3%	-0.3%
20-199 employees	0.2%	-0.8%
200 employees and over	1.3%	1.1%
All businesses	0.4%	1.9%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-24-april-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\).](#)

Data downloads

Table 1: National spotlight

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[86.61 KB]

Table 2: State and territory spotlight

[!\[\]\(b39c89771cd6fb2128a8c57aa7d97f9a_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[420.38 KB\]](#)

Table 3: Industry spotlight

[!\[\]\(5eb1325dfdc3f1cad8426726c0db51cd_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[722.31 KB\]](#)

Table 4: Payroll jobs and wages indexes

[!\[\]\(d3fb9f94af8b26d1c844efa9a98805b0_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[2.55 MB\]](#)

Table 5: Sub-state - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are updated in alternate releases, and were updated to the week ending 24 April 2021 on Wednesday 12 May 2021.

[!\[\]\(10f8862fc183b400327470ea85afe9ae_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[225.51 KB\]](#)

Table 6: Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are updated in alternate releases. They were last updated on Wednesday 28 April 2021 and will be next updated on Wednesday 26 May 2021.

[!\[\]\(d5d7044e5caf6907399af2dced8d6ff8_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[72.99 KB\]](#)

Table 7: Employer characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by employment size, including state and territory dimension.

[!\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[47.14 KB\]](#)

Table 8: Jobholder characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups, available in this release since 3 March 2021.

[!\[\]\(5abce1a84a655b073239ab33e1199487_img.jpg\) **Download XLSX**](#)
[\[51.39 KB\]](#)

All data cubes

Updated to include Table 5 as released on Wednesday 12 May 2021

[!\[\]\(f9f168a9979beed8b01f8750d577d508_img.jpg\) **Download ZIP**](#)
[\[2.9 MB\]](#)

Changes in this release

The following sections have been updated in this release:

- National: inclusion of a summary table
- States and territories: inclusion of a static map

- Interactive maps: removal of section, following the end of map updates noted in the release of 13 April 2021

Post-release changes

12 May 2021: Sub-state - Payroll jobs indexes (Table 5 of the Data downloads) were updated to the week ending 24 April 2021.

Previous articles

Previously published articles and information of interest are linked below:

- [A year of COVID-19 through payroll jobs and wages statistics \(/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics\)](/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics) reviews payroll jobs and wages in the year since Australia's 100th case of COVID-19
- [Year-end data variability \(/articles/year-end-data-variability\)](/articles/year-end-data-variability) provides some context on seasonality and seasonal variation
- [Secondary jobs \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs) provides insight into multiple jobholders
- [Incorporating JobKeeper supported payments into Weekly payroll jobs and wages in Australia \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia) describes how JobKeeper payments are included

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6160.0.55.001.

Methodology

[Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia methodology, Week ending 24 April 2021](#)